

Mr. W. L. SCLATER sent the following communication :—

ON THE RACES OF *ERYTHROPYGIA LEUCOPHRYS*.

As a result of some critical remarks made by Mr. Chapin (*in litt.*) to me on the draft of the second part of the *Systema Av. Æthiop.*, I have re-examined the arrangement of *Erythropygia leucophrys* and its allied races.

The representative of this group in Uganda has hitherto been identified with *E. ruficauda* described by Sharpe from Malimbe in Portuguese Congo, but comparison of the Uganda birds with Sharpe's type shows that, as suspected by Dr. van Someren (*Nov. Zool.* xxix. 1922, p. 237), they are distinct, and I propose to name them as follows :—

*Erythropygia leucophrys vansomereni*, subsp. n.

*Description.* Closely resembling *E. l. ruficauda*, but with the back more rufous, less brown, the rufous of the tail is also lighter and brighter, and the black subterminal spots of the tail are much shorter and more restricted.

*Type.* A male from Mokia, Ruwenzori, 3400 ft. Collected by R. E. Dent (Ruwenzori Expedition), 6 May, 1906. B.M. Reg. No. 1906.12.23.1220.

There are in the British Museum six examples from Mokia, 3 from Mulema (*Doggett*), 3 from Kibero on Lake Albert (*Emin*), and 2 from Lado and Yei, in the southern part of the Sudan.

The following is a list of the races which appear to be valid :—

*E. LEUCOPHRYS LEUCOPHRYS* (Vieill.). Type-locality : Gamtoos River, E. Cape Province, *ex* Levaillant.

Tail-feathers all black ; back greyish, not rufous.

*Distribution.* Eastern Cape Province, Natal, Zululand, and Southern Portuguese East Africa.

*E. LEUCOPHRYS PECTORALIS* (A. Smith). Type-locality : "between the Orange River and Kurrichane," *i.e.*, Bechuanaland.

Tail-feathers all black, back rather more rufous.

*Distribution.* Bechuanaland, Transvaal, and S. Rhodesia.

*E. LEUCOPHRYS MUNDA* (Cab.). Type-locality : Malandje, Angola.

Central tail-feathers slightly rufous at base, markings on the breast much restricted.

*Distribution.* Angola and Damaraland.

Synonyms.—*E. ansorgii* O.-Grant, Bull. B. O. C. xxxiii. 1914, p. 134 : Malandje ; *E. munda ovamboensis* Neumann, J. Orn. 1920, p. 83 : Ombongo ; *E. makalaka* Neumann, ibid. : Makalakaland, founded on a bird obtained by Bradshaw probably near the Victoria Falls ; it is said to be in the British Museum, but not to be found in the collection now, is also probably a synonym.

*E. LEUCOPHRYS ZAMBESIANA* Sharpe. Type-locality : Tette.

Tail-feathers red with a subterminal black spot.

*Distribution.* Zambesi Valley, southern part of N. Rhodesia and Nyasaland, perhaps to eastern Mashonaland.

Synonym.—*Erythropygia ruficauda iubilæa* Grote, Orn. Monatsb. 1927, p. 103 : Mikandini, S. Tanganyika Territory.

*E. LEUCOPHRYS RUFICAUDA* Sharpe. Type-locality : Malimbe, Portuguese Congo.

Tail-feathers dark rufous with a good deal of black.

*Distribution.* The Congo Basin from Malimbe to the Uele.

Synonym.—*E. ruficauda saturata* Neumann, J. Orn. 1920, p. 83 : Aruwimi River, Belgian Congo.

*E. LEUCOPHRYS VANSOMERENI* Selater [see above].

*E. LEUCOPHRYS SOROR* Reichw. Type-locality : Klein Aruscha, Tanganyika Territory.

Near *E. l. vansomereni*, but with more black on the tail.

*Distribution.* S. Kenya Colony and N. Tanganyika Territory from the Loita Plains to Dar-es-Salaam.

Mr. E. C. STUART BAKER forwarded the following note on *Pericrocotus peregrinus*. In Ornith. Monatsb. 1923, pp. 40, 41, Streseman points out that *P. peregrinus* Linnæus, Syst. Nat. 12th ed. p. 342, is later than *P. cinnamomeus*, p. 335,